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PATENT APPLICATION

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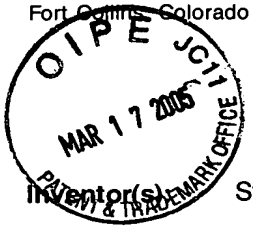

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Steve O. Rasmussen et al. **Confirmation No.:** 2282

Application No.: 10/616,809 **Examiner:** Ly Tran

Filing Date: July 10, 2003 **Group Art Unit:** 2853

Title: STARWHEEL ACTUATION TIMING FOR PRINT MEDIA TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND METHOD

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is the Appeal Brief in this application with respect to the Notice of Appeal filed on **Jan. 14, 2005**.

The fee for filing this Appeal Brief is (37 CFR 1.17(c)) $500.00.

(complete (a) or (b) as applicable)

The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) apply.

( ) (a) Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 (fees: 37 CFR 1.17(a)-(d) for the total number of months checked below:

( )	one month	$120.00
( )	two months	$450.00
( )	three months	$1020.00
( )	four months	$1590.00

( ) The extension fee has already been filled in this application.

(X) (b) Applicant believes that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.

Please charge to Deposit Account **08-2025** the sum of **$500.00**. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 08-2025 under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

(X) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Date of Deposit: **March 14, 2005**

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Typed Name: **Scott A. Lund**

Signature: _____

Respectfully submitted,

Steve O. Rasmussen et al.

By _____

Scott A. Lund

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. **41,166**

Date: **March 14, 2005**

Telephone No.: **(612) 573-2006**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Steve O. Rasmussen et al.	Examiner:	Ly Tran
Serial No.:	10/616,809	Group Art Unit:	2853
Filed:	July 10, 2003	Docket No.:	10012978-2

Title: STARWHEEL ACTUATION TIMING FOR PRINT MEDIA TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND METHOD

APPEAL BRIEF TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

APPEAL BRIEF

This Appeal Brief is presented in support of the Notice of Appeal filed on January 14, 2005, from the Final Rejection mailed October 14, 2004, rejecting claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92 of the above-identified application.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge **Deposit Account No. 08-2025** in the amount of **$500.00** for Filing a Brief in Support of an Appeal as set forth under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(c). At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.25. Additionally, please charge any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20, and 1.21 to Deposit Account 08-2025.

Appellant respectfully requests reversal of the Examiner's rejection of claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP having a principal place of business at 20555 S.H. 249 Houston, TX 77070, U.S.A. (hereinafter "HPDC"). HPDC is a Texas limited partnership and is a wholly-owned affiliate of Hewlett-Packard Company, a Delaware corporation, headquartered in Palo Alto, CA. The general or managing partner of HPDC is HPQ Holdings, LLC.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellant submits that there are no related appeals or interferences which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the decision in the pending appeal.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 46-104 are pending in the application (see Claims Appendix). Claims 1-45 were previously cancelled.

Claims 63, 65, 68-77, 91, and 93-104 are allowed.

Claims 55, 64, and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Appellant notes that claim 75 has been allowed and has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshimura U.S. Patent No. 5,818,487, and are the subject of the present Appeal.

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments have been entered subsequent to the Final Rejection mailed October 14, 2004. The claims listed in the Claims Appendix, therefore, reflect the claims as of October 14, 2004.

With regard to the rejection of claims 55, 64, and 75 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, in an Amendment and Response filed on December 13, 2004 in reply to the Final Rejection mailed October 14, 2004, Appellant proposed amendments to claims 55, 64, and 75 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards

as the invention and overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. As noted in the Advisory Action mailed January 4, 2005, however, for purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendments were not entered by the Examiner. Accordingly, Appellant considers this discussion as addressing the ground of rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

One aspect of the present invention, as claimed in independent claim 46, provides a print media transport assembly for advancing a print media (19) through a print zone (17). The print media transport assembly includes a primary drive roller (24) rotatably mounted on an entry side of the print zone and adapted to contact the print media and advance the print media through the print zone, a pinch roller (26) rotatably mounted opposite the primary drive roller and adapted to contact the print media, a secondary drive roller (28) rotatably mounted on an exit side of the print zone and adapted to contact a first side (191) of the print media, and a starwheel (30) rotatably mounted opposite the secondary drive roller (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0027]-[0032]; and Fig. 2). The starwheel is configured to move between a disengaged position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and an engaged position in which the starwheel contacts a second side (192) of the print media (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0035]-[0042]; and Figs. 4A-4F). The starwheel is prevented from contact with the secondary drive roller and adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the secondary drive roller contacts the first side of the print media (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0039]; and Figs. 4B-4C).

One aspect of the present invention, as claimed in independent claim 58, provides a printing system for printing on a print media (19). The printing system includes a printhead assembly (12) adapted to eject ink drops toward a first side (192) of the print media into a print zone (17) between the printhead assembly and the print media to print on the print media, and a print media transport assembly (18) adapted to route the print media through the printing system relative to the printhead assembly (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0022]-[0026]; para. [0029]; and Figs. 1 and 2). The print media transport assembly includes a drive roller (26) rotatably mounted on an exit side of the print zone and adapted to contact a second side (191) of the print media, and a starwheel (30) rotatably mounted opposite the drive roller (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0027]-[0032]; and Fig. 2). The starwheel is configured to

move between a disengaged position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and an engaged position in which the starwheel contacts the first side of the print media (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0035]-[0042]; and Figs. 4A-4F). The starwheel is prevented from contact with the drive roller and adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the drive roller contacts the second side of the print media (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0039]; and Figs. 4B-4C).

One aspect of the present invention, as claimed in independent claim 78, provides a print media transport assembly for advancing a print media (19) through a print zone (17). The print media transport assembly includes a primary drive roller (24) rotatably mounted on an entry side of the print zone and adapted to contact the print media and advance the print media through the print zone, a pinch roller (26) rotatably mounted opposite the primary drive roller and adapted to contact the print media, a secondary drive roller (28) rotatably mounted on an exit side of the print zone and adapted to contact a first side (191) of the print media, and a starwheel (30) rotatably mounted opposite the secondary drive roller and adapted to selectively contact a second side (192) of the print media (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0027]-[0032]; and Fig. 2). The starwheel is prevented from contact with the secondary drive roller and adapted to contact the print media for less than one revolution of the starwheel (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0039]; para. [0042]; para. [0044]; and Figs. 4B-4E).

One aspect of the present invention, as claimed in independent claim 83, provides a method of advancing a print media (19) through a print zone (17). The method includes rotatably mounting a drive roller (28) on an exit side of the print zone, rotatably mounting a starwheel (30) in opposing relationship to the drive roller on the exit side of the print zone, contacting a first side (191) of the print media with the drive roller, and selectively actuating the starwheel and contacting a second side (192) of the print media with the starwheel (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0027]-[0032]; and Fig. 2). Selectively actuating the starwheel includes preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller, and contacting the print media with the starwheel for less than one revolution of the starwheel (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0039]; para. [0042]; para. [0044]; and Figs. 4B-4E).

One aspect of the present invention, as claimed in independent claim 86, provides a method of printing on a print media (19). The method includes feeding the print media into a

print zone (17), printing on a first side (192) of the print media in the print zone, contacting a second side (191) of the print media with a drive roller (28) provided on an exit side of the print zone, and selectively actuating a starwheel (30) provided in opposing relationship to the drive roller on the exit side of the print zone (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0027]-[0032]; and Fig. 2). Selectively actuating the starwheel includes preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller, and selectively contacting the first side of the print media with the starwheel based on a position of the print media during printing (see, e.g., Specification at para. [0035]-[0042]; and Figs. 4A-4F).

GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Appellant seeks review of the rejection of claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshimura U.S. Patent No. 5,818,487.

ARGUMENT

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

A. *Applicable Law*

To anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), a reference must teach every element of the claim. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) ("A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference").

B. *Rejection of claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)*

Because the Yoshimura U.S. Patent No. 5,818,487 fails to teach each and every element of the claims, the rejection of claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is not correct and should be withdrawn.

Independent claims 46, 58, and 78 each include a drive roller and a starwheel and recite, amongst other things, that the starwheel is prevented from contact with the drive roller, and independent claims 83 and 86 each include a drive roller and a starwheel and recite, amongst other things, that selectively actuating the starwheel includes preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller.

The Examiner contends that element 126 of the Yoshimura et al. patent constitutes the drive roller and element 131 of the Yoshimura et al. patent constitutes the starwheel and asserts that "[s]ince Yoshimura discloses the same structure as the present invention, the limitation of preventing contact with the secondary drive roller is just a functional language, [and] does not limit the claimed invention, the apparatus of Yoshimura is capable to operate in any ways that [are] necessary" (Final Rejection mailed October 14, 2004, at sect. 2, p. 8).

The Yoshimura et al. patent discloses that when the paper-discharging roller unit 112 [*sic*] is at the paper-discharging position, the paper-discharging roller 131 is urged against the drive roller 126 (col. 5, lines 49-58). In addition, the Yoshimura et al. patent teaches that with the paper 138 at the print-initiating position P1 (Fig. 7), the drive circuit 157 of the paper-transporting mechanism causes the roller selecting motor 156 to switch the paper-discharging roller unit 113 to the paper-discharging position (col. 6, lines 49-55). At the print-initiating position P1 of the Yoshimura et al. patent, however, the paper 138 is not positioned between the paper-discharging roller 131 and the drive roller 126 (see, e.g., Fig. 7). As such, when the drive circuit 157 of the Yoshimura et al. patent switches the paper-discharging roller unit 113 to the paper-discharging position, the paper-discharging roller 131 contacts the drive roller 126 (Fig. 7). Thus, the paper-discharging roller 131 of the Yoshimura et al. patent is not prevented from contact with the drive roller 126.

With regard to the Examiner's assertion that the limitation of preventing contact with the secondary drive roller is "just a functional language, [and] does not limit the claimed invention," Appellant notes that claims 83 and 86 are method claims and that preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller is an action of each of the respective methods. Furthermore, with regard to apparatus claims 46, 58, and 78, Appellant submits that "a patent applicant is free to recite features of an apparatus either structurally or functionally," *In re Schreiber*, 128 F.3d 1473, 1478, 44 USPQ 1429, 1432 (Fed. Cir. 1997) and that there is nothing intrinsically wrong in defining something by what it does rather than by what it is. *In re Hallman*, 655 F.2d, 212, 210 USPQ 609 (CCPA 1981). See also *In re Swinehart*, 439 F.2d 210, 169 USPQ 226 (CCPA 1971). In addition, in evaluating a claim, Appellant submits that patentable weight must be given to all claim limitations including functional language. *In re Angstadt*, 537 F.2d 498, 501, 190 USPQ 214, 217 (CCPA 1976).

For the reasons set forth above, Appellant submits that the Yoshimura et al. patent does not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 46, independent claim 58, independent claim 78, independent claim 83, nor independent claim 86. More specifically, the Yoshimura et al. patent does not teach or suggest a print media transport assembly including a secondary drive roller and a starwheel, as claimed in independent claim 46, wherein the starwheel is prevented from contact with the secondary drive roller, nor a printing system which includes a print media transport assembly including a drive roller and a starwheel, as claimed in independent claim 58, wherein the starwheel is prevented from contact with the drive roller, nor a print media transport assembly including a secondary drive roller and a starwheel, as claimed in independent claim 78, wherein the starwheel is prevented from contact with the secondary drive roller, nor a method of advancing a print media through a print zone with a drive roller and a starwheel, as claimed in independent claim 83, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller, nor a method of printing on a print media using a drive roller and a starwheel, as claimed in independent claim 86, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller.

In view of the above, Appellant submits that independent claims 46, 58, 78, 83, and 86 are each patentably distinct from the Yoshimura et al. patent. As dependent claims 47-57 further define patentably distinct claim 46, dependent claims 59-62, 64, 66, and 67 further define patentably distinct claim 58, dependent claims 79-82 further define patentably distinct claim 78, dependent claims 84-85 further define patentably distinct claim 83, and dependent claims 87-90 and 92 further define patentably distinct claim 86, Appellant submits that these dependent claims are also patentably distinct from the Yoshimura et al. patent. Appellant, therefore, respectfully submits that the rejection of claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is not correct and should be withdrawn, and that claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92 should be allowed.

CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, Appellant respectfully submits that the art of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious the claimed invention. Thus, the claimed invention does patentably distinguish over the art of record. Appellant, therefore, respectfully submits that

the above rejection of claims 46-62, 64, 66, 67, 78-90, and 92 is not correct and should be withdrawn, and respectfully requests that the Examiner be reversed and that all pending claims be allowed.

Any inquiry regarding this Appeal Brief should be directed to either Robert D. Wasson at Telephone No. (360) 212-2338, Facsimile No. (360) 212-3060 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

Steve O. Rasmussen et al.,

By their attorneys,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope address to: Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 14TH day of March, 2005.

By
Name: Scott A. Lund

CLAIMS APPENDIX

1-45. (Cancelled)

46. (Previously Presented) A print media transport assembly for advancing a print media through a print zone, the print media transport assembly comprising:

a primary drive roller rotatably mounted on an entry side of the print zone and adapted to contact the print media and advance the print media through the print zone;

a pinch roller rotatably mounted opposite the primary drive roller and adapted to contact the print media;

a secondary drive roller rotatably mounted on an exit side of the print zone and adapted to contact a first side of the print media; and

a starwheel rotatably mounted opposite the secondary drive roller and configured to move between a disengaged position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and an engaged position in which the starwheel contacts a second side of the print media,

wherein the starwheel is prevented from contact with the secondary drive roller and adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the secondary drive roller contacts the first side of the print media.

47. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 46, wherein the primary drive roller is adapted to contact the first side of the print media and the pinch roller is adapted to contact the second side of the print media.

48. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 46, wherein the print zone is defined to the second side of the print media and the printer is adapted to print on the second side of the print media.

49. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 46, wherein the secondary drive roller and the starwheel are adapted to advance the print media through the print zone.

50. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 46, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the engaged position only when the secondary drive roller contacts the first side of the print media.

51. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 46, wherein the print media has a leading portion and a trailing portion, and wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the disengaged position before the secondary drive roller contacts the leading portion of the print media.

52. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 51, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the secondary drive roller contacts the leading portion of the print media.

53. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 51, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the primary drive roller contacts the trailing portion of the print media.

54. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 51, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the disengaged position when the trailing portion of the print media exits the print zone.

55. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 51, wherein a length of the trailing portion of the print media is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

56. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 46, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position when a final length of the print media to be advanced through the print zone is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

57. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 46, wherein the starwheel is adapted to contact the print media for less than one revolution of the starwheel.

58. (Previously Presented) A printing system for printing on a print media, the printing system comprising:

a printhead assembly adapted to eject ink drops toward a first side of the print media into a print zone between the printhead assembly and the print media to print on the print media; and

a print media transport assembly adapted to route the print media through the printing system relative to the printhead assembly, the print media transport assembly including:

a drive roller rotatably mounted on an exit side of the print zone and adapted to contact a second side of the print media, and

a starwheel rotatably mounted opposite the drive roller and configured to move between a disengaged position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and an engaged position in which the starwheel contacts the first side of the print media,

wherein the starwheel is prevented from contact with the drive roller and adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the drive roller contacts the second side of the print media.

59. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 58, wherein the drive roller and the starwheel are adapted to advance the print media through the print zone.

60. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 58, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the engaged position only when the drive roller contacts the second side of the print media.

61. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 58, wherein the print media has a leading portion and a trailing portion, and wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the disengaged position before the drive roller contacts the leading portion of the print media.

62. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 61, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the drive roller contacts the leading portion of the print media.

63. (Previously Presented) A printing system for printing on a print media having a leading portion and a trailing portion, the printing system comprising:

a printhead assembly adapted to eject ink drops toward a first side of the print media into a print zone between the printhead assembly and the print media to print on the print media; and

a print media transport assembly adapted to route the print media through the printing system relative to the printhead assembly, the print media transport assembly including:

a drive roller rotatably mounted on an exit side of the print zone and adapted to contact a second side of the print media, and

a starwheel rotatably mounted opposite the drive roller and configured to move between a disengaged position in which the starwheel is spaced from the

print media and an engaged position in which the starwheel contacts the first side of the print media,

wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the drive roller contacts the second side of the print media,

wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the disengaged position before the drive roller contacts the leading portion of the print media, and wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the disengaged position when the trailing portion of the print media exits the print zone.

64. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 61, wherein a length of the trailing portion of the print media is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

65. (Previously Presented) A printing system for printing on a print media, the printing system comprising:

a printhead assembly adapted to eject ink drops toward a first side of the print media into a print zone between the printhead assembly and the print media to print on the print media; and

a print media transport assembly adapted to route the print media through the printing system relative to the printhead assembly, the print media transport assembly including:

a drive roller rotatably mounted on an exit side of the print zone and adapted to contact a second side of the print media, and

a starwheel rotatably mounted opposite the drive roller and configured to move between a disengaged position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and an engaged position in which the starwheel contacts the first side of the print media,

wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the drive roller contacts the second side of the print media, and wherein the

starwheel is adapted to be moved to the disengaged position when printing is complete.

66. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 58, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position when a final length of the print media to be advanced through the print zone is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

67. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 58, wherein the starwheel is adapted to contact the print media for less than one revolution of the starwheel.

68. (Previously Presented) A method of advancing a print media through a print zone, the method comprising:

rotatably mounting a drive roller on an exit side of the print zone;

rotatably mounting a starwheel in opposing relationship to the drive roller on the exit side of the print zone;

contacting a first side of the print media with the drive roller; and

selectively actuating the starwheel and moving the starwheel between a first position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and a second position in which the starwheel contacts a second side of the print media, including preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller, and moving the starwheel to the second position and contacting the second side of the print media with the starwheel after the drive roller contacts the first side of the print media.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein contacting the first side of the print media with the drive roller and contacting the second side of the print media with the starwheel includes advancing the print media through the print zone with the drive roller and the starwheel.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes providing the starwheel in the first position before contacting the first side of the print media with the drive roller.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel to the second position only when the drive roller contacts the first side of the print media.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the print media has a leading portion and a trailing portion, and wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel to the second position after the drive roller contacts the leading portion.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes maintaining the starwheel in the second position as the trailing portion of the print media moves through the print zone.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel to the first position when the trailing portion of the print media exits the print zone.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72, wherein a length of the trailing portion of the print media is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel to the second position when a final length of the print media to be advanced through the print zone is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein contacting the second side of the print media with the starwheel includes contacting the print media with the starwheel for less than one revolution of the starwheel.

78. (Previously Presented) A print media transport assembly for advancing a print media through a print zone, the print media transport assembly comprising:

a primary drive roller rotatably mounted on an entry side of the print zone and adapted to contact the print media and advance the print media through the print zone;

a pinch roller rotatably mounted opposite the primary drive roller and adapted to contact the print media;

a secondary drive roller rotatably mounted on an exit side of the print zone and adapted to contact a first side of the print media; and

a starwheel rotatably mounted opposite the secondary drive roller and adapted to selectively contact a second side of the print media,

wherein the starwheel is prevented from contact with the secondary drive roller and adapted to contact the print media for less than one revolution of the starwheel.

79. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 78, wherein the primary drive roller is adapted to contact the first side of the print media and the pinch roller is adapted to contact the second side of the print media.

80. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 78, wherein the print zone is defined to the second side of the print media and the printer is adapted to print on the second side of the print media.

81. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 78, wherein the secondary drive roller and the starwheel are adapted to advance the print media through the print zone.

82. (Previously Presented) The print media transport assembly of claim 78, wherein the starwheel is configured to move between a disengaged position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and an engaged position in which the starwheel contacts the second side of the print media, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position when a final length of the print media to be advanced through the print zone is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

83. (Previously Presented) A method of advancing a print media through a print zone, the method comprising:

rotatably mounting a drive roller on an exit side of the print zone;

rotatably mounting a starwheel in opposing relationship to the drive roller on the exit side of the print zone;

contacting a first side of the print media with the drive roller; and

selectively actuating the starwheel and contacting a second side of the print media with the starwheel, including preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller, and contacting the print media with the starwheel for less than one revolution of the starwheel.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein contacting the first side of the print media with the drive roller and contacting the second side of the print media with the starwheel includes advancing the print media through the print zone with the drive roller and the starwheel.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel between a first position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and a second position in which the starwheel contacts the print media, including moving the starwheel to the second position when a final length of the print media to be advanced through the print zone is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

86. (Previously Presented) A method of printing on a print media, the method comprising:

feeding the print media into a print zone;

printing on a first side of the print media in the print zone;

contacting a second side of the print media with a drive roller provided on an exit side of the print zone; and

selectively actuating a starwheel provided in opposing relationship to the drive roller on the exit side of the print zone, including preventing contact between the starwheel and the drive roller, and selectively contacting the first side of the print media with the starwheel based on a position of the print media during printing.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 86, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel between a first position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and a second position in which the starwheel contacts the print media based on the position of the print media during printing.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes providing the starwheel in the first position while feeding the print media into the print zone.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88, further comprising:

advancing the print media through the print zone,

wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel to the second position while advancing the print media through the print zone.

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, wherein moving the starwheel to the second position includes moving the starwheel to the second position when advancing a final length of the print media through the print zone, wherein the final length of the print media is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

91. (Previously Presented) A method of printing on a print media, the method comprising:

feeding the print media into a print zone;

printing on a first side of the print media in the print zone;

contacting a second side of the print media with a drive roller provided on an exit side of the print zone; and

selectively actuating a starwheel provided in opposing relationship to the drive roller on the exit side of the print zone, including moving the starwheel between a first position in which the starwheel is spaced from the print media and a second position in which the starwheel contacts the first side of the print media based on a position of the print media during printing,

wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel to the first position when printing on the print media is complete.

92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 86, wherein selectively contacting the first side of the print media with the starwheel includes contacting the print media with the starwheel for less than one revolution of the starwheel.

93. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 63, wherein the drive roller and the starwheel are adapted to advance the print media through the print zone.

94. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 63, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the engaged position only when the drive roller contacts the second side of the print media.

95. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 63, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position after the drive roller contacts the leading portion of the print media.

96. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 63, wherein a length of the trailing portion of the print media is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

97. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 63, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the disengaged position when printing is complete.

98. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 65, wherein the drive roller and the starwheel are adapted to advance the print media through the print zone.

99. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 65, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be in the engaged position only when the drive roller contacts the second side of the print media.

100. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 65, wherein the starwheel is adapted to be moved to the engaged position when a final length of the print media to be advanced through the print zone is less than a circumference of the starwheel.

101. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 65, wherein the starwheel is adapted to contact the print media for less than one revolution of the starwheel.

102. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 91, wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes providing the starwheel in the first position while feeding the print media into the print zone.

103. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102, further comprising:

advancing the print media through the print zone,

wherein selectively actuating the starwheel includes moving the starwheel to the second position while advancing the print media through the print zone.

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 103, wherein moving the starwheel to the second position includes moving the starwheel to the second position when advancing a final length of the print media through the print zone, wherein the final length of the print media is less than a circumference of the starwheel.